

IFW

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 7, 2004.

*Scott L. Rhea*  
Attorney for Applicant

O I P E  
DEC 10 2004  
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/621,177  
Applicant : Scott L. Rhea  
Title : STEERING WHEEL ASSEMBLY  
Filed : July 16, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 3616  
Examiner : (not yet assigned)  
Docket No. : 14264

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL OF SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement disclosing information which has come to the attention of applicant and/or his attorneys and is being submitted so as to comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), the enclosed Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the above-identified application or before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits.

Neither applicant nor his attorneys make any representation that any information disclosed herein may be "prior art" within the meaning of that term under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or § 103. Moreover, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or as an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, transmitted herewith are:

1. A completed copy of Form PTO/SB/08a "Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant" listing the patents, publications and other information being submitted for consideration; and
2. A legible copy of each patent, publication and other item of information in written form listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08a, except for copies of U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications which are not required for applications filed after June 30, 2003.

As this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08a are not required and, therefore, not included herewith.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

I hereby certify that each item of information listed on the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

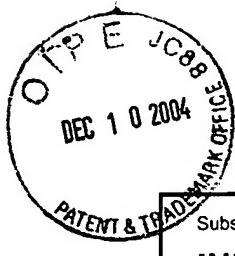
Respectfully submitted,



Craig Metcalf  
Reg. No. 31,398  
Attorney for Applicant

Date: December 7, 2004

MADSON & METCALF  
Gateway Tower West  
15 West South Temple, Suite 900  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101  
Telephone: 801/537-1700



PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 06/30/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 Of 1

### Complete if Known

|                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Application Number     | 10/621,177    |
| Filing Date            | July 16, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor   | Scott L. Rhea |
| Group Art Unit         | 3616          |
| Examiner Name          |               |
| Attorney Docket Number | 14264         |

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials * | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                                     | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of<br>Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
|                     |                       | Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> ( <i>If known</i> ) |                                |  |   |
| U1                  | US-6,231,074          |   | 05/15/2001                     | Vian   |   |
| U2                  | US-5,957,489          |   | 09/28/1999                     | Sahara et al.                                      |   |
| U3                  | US-5,738,369          |   | 04/14/1998                     | Durrani  |   |

|                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
|--------------------|-----------------|

<sup>1</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>2</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>3</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>4</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>5</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>6</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>7</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

*If you need assistance in completing this form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and selection option 2.*